

## § 21.430

have similar responsibilities for procurement contracts.

### **§ 21.430 What are the responsibilities of the head of the awarding or administering activity?**

When designated by the Head of the DoD Component or his or her designee (see 32 CFR 21.425), the head of the awarding or administering activity (*i.e.*, the HCA) is responsible for the awards made by or assigned to that activity. He or she must supervise and establish internal policies and procedures for that activity's awards.

### **§ 21.435 Must DoD Components formally select and appoint grants officers and agreements officers?**

Yes, each DoD Component that awards grants or enters into cooperative agreements must have a formal process (see § 21.425) for selecting and appointing grants officers and for terminating their appointments. Similarly, each DoD Component that awards or administers technology investment agreements must have a process for selecting and appointing agreements officers and for terminating their appointments.

### **§ 21.440 What are the standards for selecting and appointing grants officers and agreements officers?**

In selecting grants officers and agreements officers, DoD Components must use the following minimum standards:

(a) In selecting a grants officer, the appointing official must judge whether the candidate has the necessary experience, training, education, business acumen, judgment, and knowledge of assistance instruments and contracts to function effectively as a grants officer. The appointing official also must take those attributes of the candidate into account when deciding the complexity and dollar value of the grants and cooperative agreements to be assigned.

(b) In selecting an agreements officer, the appointing official must consider all of the same factors as in paragraph (a) of this section. In addition, the appointing official must consider the candidate's ability to function in the less structured environment of technology investment agreements, where the rules provide more latitude and the individual must have a greater

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capacity for exercising judgment. Agreements officers therefore should be individuals who have demonstrated expertise in executing complex assistance and acquisition instruments.

### **§ 21.445 What are the requirements for a grants officer's or agreements officer's statement of appointment?**

A statement of a grants officer's or agreements officer's appointment:

(a) Must be in writing.

(b) Must clearly state the limits of the individual's authority, other than limits contained in applicable laws or regulations. Information on those limits of a grants officer's or agreements officer's authority must be readily available to the public and agency personnel.

(c) May, if the individual is a contracting officer, be incorporated into his or her statement of appointment as a contracting officer (*i.e.*, there does not need to be a separate written statement of appointment for assistance instruments).

### **§ 21.450 What are the requirements for a termination of a grants officer's or agreements officer's appointment?**

A termination of a grants officer's or agreements officer's authority:

(a) Must be in writing, unless the written statement of appointment provides for automatic termination.

(b) May not be retroactive.

(c) May be integrated into a written termination of the individual's appointment as a contracting officer, as appropriate.

### **§ 21.455 Who can sign, administer, or terminate assistance instruments?**

Only grants officers are authorized to sign, administer, or terminate grants or cooperative agreements (other than technology investment agreements) on behalf of the Department of Defense. Similarly, only agreements officers may sign, administer, or terminate technology investment agreements.

### **§ 21.460 What is the extent of grants officers' and agreements officers' authority?**

Grants officers and agreements officers may bind the Government only to the extent of the authority delegated